

# Watertown Solar One Project Fact Sheet

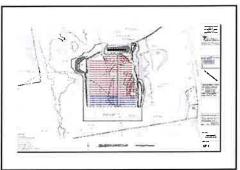
### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Watertown Solar One is a solar project located at 669
   Platt Road in Watertown
- The 1.975 MWac system will generate enough electricity to power 428 average homes for a year
- The project site is designed to have minimal environmental impacts with no disruption to wetland habitats

# **BENEFITS TO WATERTOWN**

- Increasing new annual municipal tax revenues with no additional burden on town services
- Infrastructure upgrades that improve the reliability of Watertown's electrical grid
- Reduction in energy demand during peak usage will decrease energy costs for ratepayers statewide
- Strengthened renewable energy resources that produce electricity locally with zero pollution
- The creation of 12 construction jobs and 2 new fulltime jobs in the region





# **ACHIEVING THE 100% ZERO CARBON TARGET BY 2040 & ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**

- As a Class I Renewable Energy Source, Watertown Solar One will help support the goals set forth in Governor Lamont's September 2019 Executive Order No. 3 → 100% zero carbon target for the electricity sector by 2040
- Once operational, the project will offset the equivalent of 2,527 metric tons of CO2 annually, the same amount as 41,790 tree seedlings grown for 10 years or 6,271,343 miles driven by an average passenger vehicle
- When completed, the project will use an estimated 16 acres of the total 150 across both parcels

### **APPROVAL PROCESS**

Verogy requires approval from the Connecticut State Siting Council, who has jurisdiction over projects like Watertown Solar One. We will also be working closely with municipal departments in Watertown throughout the development of this project. Watertown Solar One will also obtain a General / SWPP Permit from CT DEEP.

#### **ESTIMATED PROJECT CALENDAR**

JUNE 2019: Design phase completed

February 2020: Interconnection approvals from Eversource

MAY 2020: Completion of environmental studies

JULY 2020: Application submitted to Connecticut Siting Council OCTOBER 2020: Connecticut Siting Council decision issued

NOVEMBER 2020: Construction groundbreaking

APRIL 2021: Project completion



## **Solar Energy 101**

- 1. Solar Panels
  Collect energy from the sun
- 2. Inverters

  Converts DC Electricity to AC Electricity
- 3. Utility Infrastructure

  Electricity is delivered to the circuit that connects to the substation
- Delivery to Consumers
   Power is delivered to residential and business consumers through the local grid.

### **CONTACT US**

Verogy is committed to keeping members of the Watertown community informed about our projects. Residents with questions about the project or its approval process can contact Verogy's Director of Development, Bryan Fitzgerald at <a href="mailto:development@verogy.com">development@verogy.com</a> or (203) 257-3375.

## **Project Contact:**

Bryan Fitzgerald
Director of Development
development@verogy.com
(203) 257-3375

### **ABOUT VEROGY**

Verogy is a Hartford-based solar developer focused on commercial, industrial and small utility scale projects. Built on 50+ years of combined industry experience, the professionals at Verogy have developed, financed and constructed hundreds of solar projects across the United States.

For more information, visit www.verogy.com/watertown-solar-one/



# Watertown Solar One Project FAQ Sheet

### **Solar Photovoltaic**

How does a solar photovoltaic (PV) system work?

Solar panels absorb the sun's energy and convert it into DC electricity. The DC electricity is converted to AC electricity through inverters, which is then delivered to the local utility's infrastructure.

How much energy will the solar array generate?

Watertown Solar One will generate 3,574 mWh/year. This is enough renewable energy to power 428 homes for an entire year and offset 2,572 tons of carbon dioxide.

### **Local Benefits**

What are the local benefits of having solar generation?

In general, energy production takes place at power plants, which can be located a significant distance from where the electricity is used. Local energy production such as Watertown Solar One will help strengthen the electricity grid in Watertown through more reliable, advanced infrastructure. Additionally, solar generation is a renewable energy, which delivers locally produced power with zero emissions

What are the municipal benefits?

Once operational, the Town of Watertown will receive annual revenues from Verogy for an estimated 20 years. Additionally, there will be no burdens placed on municipal infrastructure or demands on Town of Watertown services.

## **Construction & Operation**

How long will construction take?

Following all state and local approvals, construction will take approximately six months.

How will the solar array be maintained?

Maintenance visits by Verogy staff will take place onsite every one to two months. Once the solar array is operational, Verogy will monitor energy production remotely.

What is the lifespan of this solar array?

Watertown Solar One has an overall lifespan of 35 years.

What will happen to the array at the end of its lifespan?

At the end of its lifespan, Watertown Solar One will be decommissioned and removed from the property.

### **Location & Site Selection**

Why was this location chosen?

The site was selected due to its minimal impact to both neighboring property owners and the environmental conditions of the area. The array itself will not impact any wetlands and appropriate setbacks from neighboring properties have been incorporated into the project's site design. Additionally, the site is located in close proximity to the electrical grid, further limiting construction or operational impacts.

How much of the current property will be used for the project?

The total area of the property where Watertown Solar One is proposed is approximately 150 acres. When completed, the project will use an estimated 16 acres

Are there any dangers living near a solar array?

There are no known dangers or adverse effects of living near a solar array.

Will the project create glare or other visual impacts?

Solar panels are designed to absorb light in order to maximize their efficiency and generally reflect about 2% of sunlight. The panels that will be used at Watertown Solar One are about 10 feet tall; due to the existing vegetation and topography of the site, there will be limited views of the project. Additionally, Verogy will identify areas in the neighborhood that may experience visual impacts and use vegetative screening and other techniques to limit these impacts.

### Watertown Solar One and the Environment

What will happen to the existing land, forest, and trees on the property currently?

This project was designed with the least possible impact on the existing environment of the property. When completed, the project will use an estimated 16 acres out of a total 150 acres

What measures will be taken to protect wildlife that visit or live on the property?

A full survey of the land will be conducted as part of the approval process. Verogy will be working with environmental professionals to conduct numerous studies on the property, including but not limited to:

- Natural Diversity Database: Identify the endangered, threatened and special concern species and significant natural communities on or nearby the property
- USFWS: Consultation in regard to Section 7 and 10 of the Endangered Species Act
- Soil: Identify the types of soil and their uses
- Wetlands: Identify any existing wetland areas in order to avoid impact

Verogy takes its commitment to sustainability and the environment very seriously. We will continue to work with our environmental engineers and other stakeholders to ensure that Watertown Solar One's impacts are as limited as possible.

### **Approval Process**

What is the approval process for Watertown Solar One?

Verogy requires approval from the Connecticut State Siting Council, which has jurisdiction over projects like Watertown Solar One. We will also be working closely with municipal departments in Watertown throughout the development of the project.

Residents with questions about the approval process can contact Verogy's Director of Development, Bryan Fitzgerald at development@verogy.com or (203) 257-3375.

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Watertown Solar One Project Outreach - Municipal & State Agencies					VEROGY
Date	Participants	Summary	Location	Verogy / Consultant Atendees	Notes
8/19/2018	Robert Hannon - CT DEEP Beatrize Milne - CT DEEP	Nonspecific Project Introduction & Best Practices Discussion	DEEP - 79 Elm St Nardord	William Herchel - Verogy Brian Smith - Verogy Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy	
11/13/2018	Jason Bowza - Department of Agriculture	Nonspecific Project Introduction & Best Practices Discussion	Dep of Ag - Hartford	William Herchel - Verogy Brhan Smith - Verogy Steve Delvino - Verogy Parick McTiolin - GRIPR	
5/29/2019	Robert Hannon - CT DEEP Beatrize Milne - CT DEEP	DEEP Forestry (Core Forest) Mapping Tool Review & Best Practices	DEEP - 79 Elm St Hartford	William Herchel - Verogy Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy	
11/12/2019	Bob Scannell - Town Manager (Waterfown) Mark Massoud - Planning and Zoning (Waterfown) Joe Seacrest - Economic Development (Waterfown)	CSC Pre-petition filing meeting (Waterfown - Host Muntcpairty)	Watertown Town Annex	William Herchel - Verogy Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy	
11/19/2019	Barbara Perkinson - First Selectwoman (Woodbury)	CSC Pre-petition filing meeting (Woodbury - Neighboring municipality within 2,500° of proposed project)	Woodbury Town Hall	William Herchel - Verogy Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy	Woodbury is within 2500' of the proejct site and required notification prior to submitting to CSC
11/19/2019	Leonard Assard - First Selectman (Bethlehem)	CSC Pre-petition filing meeting (Bethlehem - Neighboring municipality within 2,500° of proposed proJect)	Bethihem Town Hall	William Herchel - Verogy Bryan Flzgerald - Verogy	Bethiehem is within 2500' of the proejct site and required notification prior to submitting to CSC
1/14/2020	Juliet Bryan-Powell, Karen Allen, Yvonne Boiton, Oswald Inglese, Chris Stone, Neal Williams - CT DEEP	Solar Check-in Stormwater Siting Process	DEEP - 79 Elm St Hartford	William Herchel - Verogy, Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy, Josh Hughes - Capital Consulting, Brad Parsons - All Polnts Technology Corp	Meeting with DEEP team members regarding stormwater and solar siting / permitting, Discussed "Appendix I" and Stormwater GP Process
1/28/2020	Neal Williams, Chris Stone - CT DEEP	First Pre-Application Meeting (Storm water / GP)	DEEP - 79 Elm St Hartford	Steve DeNino - Verogy, Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy, Kyle Perry - Verogy, Brad Parsons - All Points Technology Corp	First Pre application meeting for stormwater / GP. Discussed current site conditions and preliminary stormwater controls both pre and post.
3/10/2020 - 3/25/2020	John Gavallas - Interim Town Manager (Watertown) Mark Massoud - Planning and Zoning (Watertown). Joe Searrest - Economic Development (Watertown)	Discussions regarding project development status, timing, and potentiel for Virtual Net Metering Partnership	Email, and Phone communications	Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy	Email and phone conversations regarding project status and VMM partnership opportunities. Mark Massoud informed Bryan Fitzgerald that John Gavallar had stepped in as Interim Town Manager
5/4/2020	John Gavallas - Interim Town Manager (Watertown) Mark Massoud - Planning and Zoning (Watertown) Joe Seacrest - Economic Development (Watertown)	Watertown Solar One May 2020 Update	Email Correspondance	Bryan Fitzgerald - Verogy	Bryan Fitzgerald provided updated project information and development timing.
6/11/2020		Public Outreach Campalgn		Pubic Outreach Materials distributed to neighbors of the proposed project as well as Town officials	Public outreach materials distributed to neighboring property owners of the proposed project. Project Website goes live and available to public.
6/28/2020	John Gavallas - Interim Town Manager (Watertown) Mark Massoud - Planning and Zoning (Watertown) Donna Murphy, Assessor (Watertown) Joe Searest - Economic Development (Watertown)	Watertown Solar One June 2020 Update	Zoom Video	William Herchel - Verogy Bryan Fragerald - Verogy	Verogy hosts a zoom meeting with Town officials to provide a June project update; Proejct Development trimige and submission to Connection (Sing Council; Virtual Net Metering, and property Taxes sissues